

SUITE 1725 • 200 NORTH BROADWAY • ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63102-2716 • 314/421-1153

December 27, 1994

Ms. Carol Graser Ropski
Emergency Support Section
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
(HSE-5J)
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604

RE: Response to General Notice of Potential Liability and Request for Information; Sauget Area 2, Site Q - Eagle Marine Industries, Inc.;
Riverport Terminal & Fleeting Co.; and Fred Leyhe (Respondents)

Dear Ms. Ropski:

Respondents acknowledge receipt of your Notice and Request for Information which was received by us the 19th through 22nd of December, 1994.

For all three entities responding pursuant to this letter, we wish to advise that the property was purchased by our companies to operate river barge fleeting facilities and a grain and coal bulk loading and unloading facility. Our companies have never caused a release or is there any concern for any threatened release on this property.

In view of our continuing cooperation for a great number of years with the EPA and IEPA, we disagree with the EPA's assumption of authority in this matter, which it asserts is conferred by the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation & Liability Act (CERCLA), 42 U.S.C. Sec. 9601 et seq. We also disagree and object to EPA's demand for payment of alleged response costs and all undefined and undetailed future response costs. The companies named herein reserve any and all objections, defenses and denials, whether or not stated here, to the EPA issuance of the special notice letter and/or the statements, allegations and demands which it contains. Nothing contained in this response is intended, nor can it be construed, as an admission or waiver of any issue or question of fact or law, which are now or hereafter may be available to the companies.

However, in the spirit of cooperation, which I believe we have demonstrated for a number of years, we offer our continuing cooperation with respect to this matter and agree to participate in negotiations with the EPA and other potentially responsible parties

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concerning the conduct or financing of the activities which are contemplated by your special notice letter. In addition, because of the volume of documents that must be reviewed to answer your information request, we are requesting an additional 60 days in which to reply.

Please direct all future and further communication with respect to all of the named companies herein to:

Richard Burke President Eagle Marine Industries, Inc. 200 North Broadway, Suite 1725 St. Louis, Missouri 63102-2716.

Very truly yours

Richard D. Burke

President

RDB: dmg

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